Bringing history into accord with the facts in the tradition of Dr. Harry Elmer Barnes

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Personal From the Consulting Editor

By Michael Collins Piper

Since 1994 there have been no less than 113 issues of *THE BARNES REVIEW* (TBR) committed to print. But it is probably not a gamble to say that this 114th issue may be our most "controversial" --perhaps even more so than our famous "All Holocaust" issue which has been distributed to the tune of more t:han 100,000 copies since first published in January/February 2001. Now comes this issue -- another special issue-- based around the theme of TBR editor and publisher Willis A. Carto's fascinating monograph entitled "Revenge of the Neanderthal." Agree or disagree, for whatever reason, with Carto's thesis (and there are those who will, most vehemently so), you will nonetheless be intrigued by the subject matter.

Having been a contributor to TBR from its inception, I've always appreciated this journal's wide-ranging, no-holds-barred approach to uncovering real history, authentic history, rejecting the artificial constructs (read: lies and disinformation) so often put forth by those whom Harry Elmer Barnes referred to as "the Court Historians."

So, needless to say, I was honored when Willis asked me to sit in as a special consulting editor on this issue of TBR, assisting in the assembly of so much additional material that underscores the foundation of the historical scenario Willis has put forth.

And I can tell you that when Willis first mentioned to me -- many years ago -- his own suspicions about the fate of the Neanderthal and the origins of the Jewish people (a theory founded upon his own longtime inquiries into a wide array of subject matters, including sociology, history, biology, linguistics, archeology and -- of course -- religion, it seemed to me, as I told Willis then: "I think you're onto something."

So imagine my surprise when I did my own peripheral research -- and Willis's surprise as well -- and was able to tell TBR's publisher he was far from being alone in having reached his own particular (and certainly fascinating) theory about Neanderthal man. In fact, as you'll see, several people-most notably Jewish writers -- have independently come to the same conclusion that Willis reached quite on his own. And since that time, more than a few well-read folks, apprised of the theory, have concluded that, yes, there is much more to the story (perhaps we should call it the "secret" story) of the Neanderthal than meets the eye.

We thus present "Revenge of the Neanderthal" and certainly look forward to any comments you may have -- especially new readers.

-- MICHAEL COLLINS PIPER
Consulting Editor for this issue of TBR

[A special thanks to Michael Collins Piper and Assistant Editor John Tiffany for their inestimable efforts in helping with the preparation of this special theme issue of *THE BARNES REVIEW*. -- Willis A. Carto]

EDITORIAL

A CONTROVERSIAL TOPIC TO BE SURE ...

The idea that today's people known as "Jews" may well be foundationally genetically descended ftom the Neanderthals is not really so extraordinary as it sounds. Even as far back as Aug. 2, 1997, the online publication Slate (which is considered quite "hip" and "progressive" and otherwise very much politically correct) featured a commentary by a Jewish writer, Charles Paul Freund, entitled "So are the Neanderthals still Jews?" pointing out that there have been those who have raised this controversial question:

Freund's article noted that "a long and extraordinary history of speculation concerns the ultimate identity of the Jews," and that there have been a wide-ranging array of explanations of Jewish origins, effectively underscoring the point that the issue is not so settled as many believe.

Now although Freund implicitly rejects the possibility of Jews having any linkage to the Neanderthals he points out that it would be a "mistake" for people to instinctively scoff at the theory. As he summarizes the situation well:

> At least two theorists working separately have concluded this: The Jews are surviving Neanderthals. Laughing at such ideas suggests you believe them to be absurd. But the validity of such theorizing is beside the point. What matters is the existence of such a premise, because it validates the question it seeks to answer: What explains the Jews? That Jews require a meta-explanation is the problematic premise, one that even philo-Semites have ... fallen for.

It's important to note, right up ftont, the two theorists to whom Freund refers as having concluded that the Jews are descended, at least in part, ftom the Neanderthals both happen to be of Jewish extraction themselves: Welsh-based sociologist and researcher Stan Gooch and Canadian-based writer Michael Bradley.

Gooch's books, *The Dream Culture of the Neanderthals: Guardians of Ancient Wisdom* and *The Neanderthal Legacy: Remembering Our Genetic and Cultural Origins*, and Bradley's two works, *The Iceman Inheritance* and its sequel, *Chosen People from the Caucasus*, expand upon the theories the two writers put forth, but, quite notably, the authors vigorously differ in their ultimate conclusions. Put simply, Gooch looks favorably on what he perceives to be the Neanderthal origins of the Jewish people, whereas Bradley sees the Neanderthal connection as a very real, but ultimately unfortunate, explanation for many of the geopolitical and social problems facing the world today.

In truth, scientific inquiry into the origins of mankind (and most specifically into the saga of the Neanderthals) is an ongoing process. There are no simple answers and one can find spir¬ited debate among those who make that study their business.

So there is nobody who can come forward and say definitively that either Gooch or Bradley's assessments are off the mark or to disprove the possibility (which others have put forth) that the Neanderthals and Cro-Magnon man (the presumed forerunner of what we today refer to as "modern" man) may have actually interbred and produced a "new man," despite the fact that others contend that the Neanderthals were, more or less, an unlucky branch of the human family tree that died out.

Consider, too, the fact that on April 19, 1991 the prestigious *Science* magazine reported that in Israel itself there were four caves in which the remains of Neanderthals were found and that newly developed dating techniques suggested that "moder types and the Neanderthals were contemporaries on the Israeli landscape." So there were Neanderthals in the Holy Land.

Even Abram Leon Sachar --- consistently hailed as the foremost modern historian of the Jewish people -- in his *History of the Jews* wrote of excavations in ancient Palestine that "reveal the presence, among the earliest inhabitants, of a race of new stone age men who dwelt in caves and grottoes and burnt their dead in crude crematoriums, and who may have been the Horim of the Biblical narrative." Yet, he noted, "how long they lived on in Palestine cannot be ascertained." Sachar likewise acknowledged that the early history of the Jews is not so precisely documented as many might wish to think.

Discussing this problem in assessing the ambiguities of what is said today and generally accepted to be what is popularly known as Jewish history, Sachar noted: "...a veil now falls over the story. We are left without definite evidence of what occurred during these long centuries of race movements and conflicts .... The details of the shifting and changing are unknown."

In fact, Sachar added -- almost as if unable to define anything whatsoever as authentic Jewish history:

> When the veil is at last lifted, five centuries later, and zealous historians begin to tell, in the Biblical narrative, the story of their ancestors, the Hebrews are already long settled in Palestine, holding the strategic places, loosely united in a monarchy, worshipping a strange god, known as Yahweh. Where they came from, who molded them into a people, how they entered Palestine, their oldest traditions we cannot answer with certainty.

Sachar admitted that what he calls "the most influential history in the world" -- that is, the history of the Jews -- "is lost in the gray morning of folk-memory and fable."

So it is that even the most eminent of modem Jewish historians affirmed that what he called the "central problem" of early Hebrew history was, as he put it, to "explain how a group of scattered tribes, pressing into the country from many directions, became a nation, and how their varied religious experiences evolved into the national religion which the prophets built upon and expanded."

In short, Sachar was saying then -- as even more current Jewish historians such as Shlomo Sand have pointed out (to much furor, it seems}-- that what is said to be Jewish "history" is really, in substantial part, what the Jewish authors of the Old Testament claimed to be history, but which others -- including Jewish (even Israeli) historians, archeologists and other scholars -- say is nonsense contradicted by scientific and historical fact. In short, it's bunk.

Another Jewish writer, Dan Rottenberg, in his widely utilized work, *Finding Our Fathers: A Guidebook to Jewish Genealogy*, is careful to point out the complex nature of tracing Jewish ancestry and points out, quite candidly:

> Many traditions about ancestral descent, Jewish and otherwise, have been handed down over centuries and even millennia. Because they have survived for so long, they are often accepted as truth. It's fun to consider these traditions and impossible to say flat out that they are false, but at the very least they are highly suspect. If you examine any such tradition closely, you will find that the people maintaining it had some particular axe to grind.

For example, Rottenberg points out that in the 19th century many Jews living in Hungary readily claimed descent ftom the famous Khazars. Noting that "perhaps" the claim was valid, Rottenberg adds that the claim also happened to be "very convenient in an age when Hungarian nationalism was strong and suspicion of outsiders widespread." By claiming Khazar origins, the Jews of Hungary were thus able to say that they were not really from a faraway land, but people from the same land as the Magyars.

On the other hand, Rottenberg points out, there is a problem for modem-day "Jews" living in the state of Israel: "If it could be shown that a major part of the world's Jews were descended from the Khazars, and not from the ancient Israelites, this might seem to some people to undercut the Jews' claim to Israel as their rightful homeland."

There is no "certain" history of the Jews and their origins, even in modem times. And thus to even attempt to explore their earliest evolution and their separation into a group that we know today as "the Jewish people," reminds us there are no simple answers -- as even Jewish historians acknowledge.

The input of such scholars as the aforementioned Michael Bradley and Stan Gooch is quite relevant in attempting to reach an understanding of the subject. In the forthcoming pages we'll see what they and others have had to say, no matter how "controversial" it may be. And controversial it is, as we said at the beginning, to be sure.

-- MICHAEL COLLINS PIPER
Special Consulting Editor

NOTHING IS CERTAIN . . .

As this issue of TBR went to press, *The Washington Post* published a remarkable story on March 25 referencing an article published online at the Internet web site of *Nature* magazine (www.nature.com) describing a major new scientific discovery regarding "a new lineage ofproto-human" -- an all-new human forerunner never before known to science --"a discovery," asserted the fast, "that raises new questions about early human history."

Scientists involved in the study of a bone fragment from this "new" creature-which has been dubbed the "Denisova hominin" (Denisova is the name of the cave in Russia's Altai Mountains where it was found; a hominin is any descendant of the last common ancestor of humans and chimpanzees) -- are unambiguous in stating that the discovery of the new lineage, which has not yet been declared a separate species, is an extraordinary development.

For example, Terry Brown, a molecular paleontologist at the University of Manchester, says that "People are going to be what we call 'gobsmacked' by this news: 'There is going to be open-mouth amazement." And Johannes Krause, a researcher at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Germany, who helped lead the scientific team investigating the fmd, said that what is under study is "some new creature that hasn't been on our radar screen before."

The *Post* noted that "What the beings looked like, how they lived and what happened to them are a mystery. All that's known is that they existed as recently as 40,000 years ago, which is the approximate age of the bone." In addition, it appears that this creature existed in Russia "during a long period when early modem humans and Neanderthals were there."

And the question remains as to whether this creature had contact with the others or might have even bred witli them -- a matter that will be the subject of further study. *The Post* adds that while "so far, there's no firm evidence of breeding between early modem numans and Neanderthals … to discover that the Denisova hominin was a hybrid ... would change the view of man's prehistory considerably."

The point of all of this is a simple demonstration that what we have long believed to be "true" about many things-historical, scientific, archeological -- is not necessarily true. And such discoveries as this amazing find in the region where Neanderthal man and Cro-Magnon man -- and now this "new" creature-lived, continue to raise new questions about our past.

MICHAEL COLLINS PIPER is a frequent contributor to **THE BARNES REVIEW** and the author of ***Final Judgment: The Missing Link in the JFK Assassination Conspiracy*** ($25), called the definitive work on the JFK execution. He is also the author of ***The New Jerusalem: Zionist Power in America*** ($19.95) and ***The High Priests of War*** ($19.95). Order any of these books from TBR BOOK CLUB by calling 1-877-773-9077 toll free and charging to Visa or MasterCard. TBR'subscribers take 10% off book prices. Add $3 per book S&H.